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Rescinded IAB 9/17/03, effective 9/2/03; see 11—Ch 1

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CHAPTER 6
CONTESTED CASES

471—6.1(17A) Scope and applicability. This chapter applies to contested case proceedings conducted by the information technology council.

471—6.2(17A) Definitions. Except where otherwise specifically defined by law:

“*Contested case*” means a proceeding defined by Iowa Code section 17A.2(5) and includes any matter defined as a no factual dispute contested case under Iowa Code section 17A.10A.

“*Issuance*” means the date of mailing of a decision or order or date of delivery if service is by other means unless another date is specified in the order.

“*Party*” means each person or agency named or admitted as a party or properly seeking and entitled as of right to be admitted as a party.

“*Presiding officer*” means the information technology council, one or more members of the council, or an administrative law judge assigned to the case.

“*Proposed decision*” means the presiding officer’s recommended findings of fact, conclusions of law, decision, and order in a contested case in which the majority of the information technology council did not preside.

471—6.3(17A) Time requirements.

6.3(1) Time shall be computed as provided in Iowa Code subsection 4.1(34).

6.3(2) For good cause, the presiding officer may extend or shorten the time to take any action, except as precluded by statute or by rule. Except for good cause stated in the record, before extending or shortening the time to take any action, the presiding officer shall afford all parties an opportunity to be heard or to file written arguments.

471—6.4(17A) Requests for contested case proceeding. Any person claiming an entitlement to a contested case proceeding shall file a written request for such a proceeding within the time specified by the particular rules or statutes governing the subject matter or, in the absence of such law, the time specified in the agency action in question.

The request for a contested case proceeding should state the name and address of the requester, identify the specific agency action which is disputed, and where the requester is represented by a lawyer identify the provisions of law or precedent requiring or authorizing the holding of a contested case proceeding in the particular circumstances involved, and include a short and plain statement of the issues of material fact in dispute.

471—6.5(17A) Notice of hearing.

6.5(1) Delivery. Delivery of the notice of hearing constitutes the commencement of the contested case proceeding. Delivery may be executed by:

- a. Personal service as provided in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure; or
- b. Certified mail, return receipt requested; or
- c. First-class mail; or
- d. Publication, as provided in the Iowa Rules of Civil Procedure.

6.5(2) Contents. The notice of hearing shall contain the following information:

- a. A statement of the time, place, and nature of the hearing;
- b. A statement of the legal authority and jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held;
- c. A reference to the particular sections of the statutes and rules involved;
- d. A short and plain statement of the matters asserted. If the agency or other party is unable to state the matters in detail at the time the notice is served, the initial notice may be limited to a statement of the issues involved. Thereafter, upon application, a more definite and detailed statement shall be furnished;
- e. Identification of all parties including the name, address and telephone number of the person who will act as an advocate for the agency or the state and of parties' counsel where known;
- f. Reference to the procedural rules governing conduct of the contested case proceeding;
- g. Reference to the procedural rules governing informal settlement;
- h. Identification of the presiding officer, if known. If not known, a description of who will serve as presiding officer (e.g., the information technology council, members of the council, administrative law judge); and
- i. Notification of the time period in which a party may request, pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.11 and rule 6.6(17A), that the presiding officer be an administrative law judge.

471—6.6(17A) Presiding officer.

6.6(1) Any party who wishes to request that the presiding officer assigned to render a proposed decision be an administrative law judge employed by the department of inspections and appeals must file a written request within 20 days after service of a notice of hearing which identifies or describes the presiding officer as the agency head or members of the agency.

6.6(2) The agency may deny the request only upon a finding that one or more of the following apply:

- a. Neither the agency nor any officer of the agency under whose authority the contested case is to take place is a named party to the proceeding or a real party in interest to that proceeding.
- b. There is a compelling need to expedite issuance of a final decision in order to protect the public health, safety, or welfare.

- c. An administrative law judge with the qualifications identified in subrule 6.6(4) is unavailable to hear the case within a reasonable time.
- d. The case involves significant policy issues of first impression that are inextricably intertwined with the factual issues presented.
- e. The demeanor of the witnesses is likely to be dispositive in resolving the disputed factual issues.
- f. Funds are unavailable to pay the costs of an administrative law judge and an interagency appeal.
- g. The request was not timely filed.
- h. The request is not consistent with a specified statute.

6.6(3) The agency shall issue a written ruling specifying the grounds for its decision within 20 days after a request for an administrative law judge is filed. If the ruling is contingent upon the availability of an administrative law judge with the qualifications identified in subrule 6.6(4), the parties shall be notified at least 10 days prior to the hearing if a qualified administrative law judge will not be available.

6.6(4) An administrative law judge assigned to act as presiding officer in any information technology department case shall have the following technical expertise unless waived by the information technology council: knowledge of contract law.

6.6(5) Except as provided otherwise by another provision of law, all rulings by an administrative law judge acting as presiding officer are subject to appeal to the council. A party must seek any available intra-agency appeal in order to exhaust adequate administrative remedies.

6.6(6) Unless otherwise provided by law, agency head and members of multimembered agency heads, when reviewing a proposed decision upon intra-agency appeal, shall have the powers of and shall comply with the provisions of this chapter which apply to presiding officers.